

2

MAIL STOP PCT  
IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED OFFICE  
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**ACCOMPANYING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION**

APPLICANT(s): Yoko Watanabe et al.  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 075834.00404  
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP03/08176  
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: June 27, 2003  
INVENTION: MASK AND INSPECTION METHOD THEREFOR  
AND PRODUCTION METHOD FOR  
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant requests that citation and examination of the documents listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

**EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE**

These references correspond to the references identified and discussed in the International Search Report (copy enclosed).

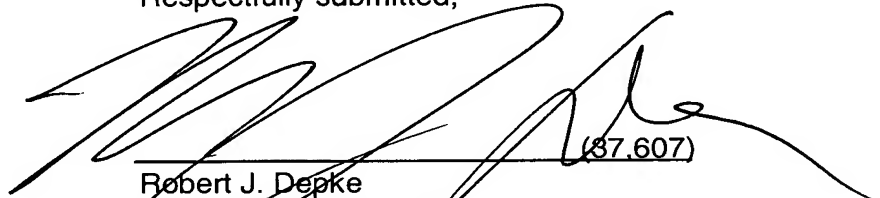
These references were identified during earlier PCT examination proceedings. Copies of each of the references together with Form PTO/SB/08A are submitted herewith. Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed simultaneously with the papers for entering into

- 2 -

the National Examination Phase, it is in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(1) and no fee is necessary.

The undersigned also points out that the submission of these documents is neither a concession nor admission that the documents qualify as prior art for this application under the patent laws of the United States. Applicant reserves the right to challenge the status of any such document that the office determines to be prior art.

Respectfully submitted,



(87.607)  
Robert J. Depke  
HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLC  
131 South Dearborn Street, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 263-3600  
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

DT01 Rec'd PCT/PTC 17 DEC 2004

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Sheet 1 of 2

Application Number	10/518345
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Yoko Watanabe et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	075834.00404

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	1	US- 2002/0000524	01/03/2002	Suzuki et al.	
	2	US- 5958627	09/28/1999	Shoki	
	3	US- 5260151	11/09/1993	Berger et al.	
	4	US-			
	5	US-			
	6	US-			
	7	US-			
	8	US-			
	9	US-			
	10	US-			
	11	US-			
	12	US-			
	13	US-			
	14	US-			
	15	US-			
	16	US-			
	17	US-			
	18	US-			
	19	US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> "Number" "Kind Code" <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	1	JP2000-306806	11/02/2000	Nikon Corp		
	2	JP2001-351854	12/21/2001	Nikon Corp		
	3	JP2000-012439	01/14/2000	Canon Inc		
	4	JP58-34731	03/07/1983	Sanyo Electric		
	5	JP9-129536	05/16/1997	NEC Corp		
	6	JP10-135130	05/22/1998	Hoya Corp		

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

10/518345

Sheet 2 of 2

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Yoko Watanabe et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	075834.00404

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	1	US-			
	2	US-			
	3	US-			
	4	US-			
	5	US-			
	6	US-			
	7	US-			
	8	US-			
	9	US-			
	10	US-			
	11	US-			
	12	US-			
	13	US-			
	14	US-			
	15	US-			
	16	US-			
	17	US-			
	18	US-			
	19	US-			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	7	JP2002-8972	01/11/2002	NEC Corp.		
	8	JP10-83071	03/31/1998	Hoya Corp		
	9	JP2001-102296	04/13/2001	Nikon Corp		
	10	JP11-40477	02/12/1999	Nikon Corp		
	11	JP2000-49081	02/18/2000	Nikon Corp		
	12	JP05-251317	09/28/1993	AT&T		

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.